

In order to expedite the prosecution of the present application and present claims having a different scope of coverage, the subject matter of Claim 15 has been combined into Claim 12. No new matter has been added. It is respectfully submitted that the currently presented claims are patentably distinguishable over the prior art cited by the Examiner. Favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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12. (ThreeFour Times Amended) Surface treatment chemicals for forming a polymerization reaction product on the surface of a fiber in which the improvement is characterized in that said surface treatment chemicals comprise a water-soluble organic substance selected from the group consisting of at least one of a protein selected from fibroin, collagen and wool, protein derivatives and polysaccharides, having an average molecular weight of 100 to 20,000, a polymerization initiator and a reactive modifier.